UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT EASTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI EASTERN DIVISION

MONSANTO COMPANY, et al.,

Plaintiffs,

vs.

No. 4:09-CV-00686(ERW)

E.I. DUPONT DE NEMOURS & COMPANY,
et al.,

Defendants.

MOTION HEARING

BEFORE THE HONORABLE E. RICHARD WEBBER UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

September 2, 2009

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1 (PROCEEDINGS BEGAN AT 9:00 AM.) 2 THE COURT: Good morning. COUNSEL OF RECORD: Good morning, Your Honor. 3 THE COURT: Once more onto the breach we go. 4 5 Monsanto Company and others versus E.I. DuPont and 6 others; 4:09-CV-00686(ERW). 7 The matter comes before the Court today on 8 Plaintiffs', Monsanto Company and Monsanto Technology, LLC's, 9 Motion to Stay Discovery and for Separate Trial of Defendants' Antitrust Counterclaims, Document No. 35. 10 11 In their motion, Plaintiffs ask that the Court stay 12 discovery on the antitrust counterclaims filed by Defendants 13 until resolution of Plaintiffs' patent and contract claims. 14 Additionally, Plaintiffs ask that the antitrust counterclaims be tried separately. 15 16 Plaintiffs state that it is common practice for 17 Courts to sever antitrust claims and patent claims to simplify 18 issues and reduce the risk of jury confusion. Plaintiffs note 19 that patent claims are less complex and require less discovery and will be ready for trial earlier. Plaintiffs state that 20 21 the antitrust counterclaims depend upon issues at the core of 22 the patent claims and resolving the patent claims first will moot or simplify the antitrust counterclaims. 23 24 Defendants respond that granting this motion would 25 substantially delay the resolution of this case and assert

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     that Plaintiffs' current actions to extend its monopoly power
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    require an expedited briefing and trial schedule on these
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    counterclaims. Defendants state that many of their antitrust
    counterclaims are not dependent on Plaintiffs' patent claims
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    and assert that the law does not support a stay where patent
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    claims would not be dispositive of all of the antitrust
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    claims.
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              Plaintiffs reply that the vast majority of
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    Defendants' antitrust counterclaims would be mooted by the
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    resolution of their contract and patent claims and state that
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    Courts frequently stay discovery even where resolution of the
    patent claims will not dispose of all antitrust counterclaims.
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              Plaintiffs ready?
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              MR. CONRAN: Good morning, Your Honor.
              THE COURT: Good morning. Plaintiffs ready?
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              MR. CONRAN: We're ready.
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              THE COURT: Defendants ready?
              MR. DENVIR: We are, Your Honor.
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              THE COURT: Good morning. Whenever you're ready.
              MR. CONRAN: I'd like to introduce to the Court
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    Dan Webb, a good friend, who is going to be handling the
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    motion on this issue. All right?
              THE COURT: All right. Good morning, Mr. Webb.
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              MR. WEBB: Good morning, Your Honor. Thank you for
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    allowing me to appear and argue this motion.
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Let me maybe start with a general observation or point that this issue that we're arguing today on behalf of Monsanto of staying an antitrust counterclaim that gets filed following a patent case being filed is an issue that's been frequently handled by Courts in recent years, and it's because this pattern repeats itself. When a patent case gets filed by a patent holder, it's quite common and frequent that, as a strategy, there's an antitrust counterclaim that gets filed by the -- by the defendant for a variety of reasons. And so Courts have addressed this issue a lot over the years.

When you look at the most recent cases, these cases and now in recent years come out and directly say that it has become a standard practice or a common practice for Federal Courts to stay antitrust counterclaims pending resolution of — of the patent claims. The Federal Courts have moved in this direction in recent years, Your Honor, because it just makes good common sense to do so for three reasons. If you read those — There's a lot of — I think there's about 25 cases the parties cite between the two briefs on this issue, but when you break down those cases, what I see in the cases, Your Honor, there's essentially three reasons that in one form or another get referred to in the cases as being the reason why the Court has decided to stay discovery and to separate the trials.

Probably the most important reason, the one that

seems to get referred to the most is that resolution of the patent claims first may moot some number of the antitrust counterclaims or at least simplify and to streamline the antitrust counterclaims. That's basically a judicial efficiency argument that the cases focus on, but there's two other reasons that get often mentioned and discussed in the cases that are really related to that.

The second is that the fact is it's quite common that those antitrust counterclaims are so much more complex, involve so much more discovery; that from the standpoint of -- of judicial economy, that Courts focus on that and decide that it's better to let these patent cases get tried first because what happens in the real world is that that almost always narrows down the antitrust counterclaim and, quite frankly, frequently it goes away. And, therefore, as the Supreme Court has recently said in the Trombley case, the cost of discovery and the time consumption with discovery, if it can be reasonably avoided, then that's something the Court should focus on which is why I think these cases in recent years have focused more on that second issue, along with the first issue.

The third issue that gets focused on in the cases and why they grant the motion is jury confusion. What the Courts analyze and say is that if you just crunch the patent case and throw on top of it, glob on top of it all of these antitrust issues, it's inevitable that you're going to create a great

deal of jury confusion and -- and cloud the focus of the patent case.

And so those three reasons I want to talk about here today with Your Honor because all three of those reasons that are present in the case are present in the circumstance before Your Honor with this case. And by the way, as far as how common it is, the cases say it's become the common practice, I actually counted it up. So I looked at the briefs.

On the issue of whether there should be a separate trial, the parties have cited 23 cases between the two briefs. Now I did the best I could to look at those 23 cases. It looks to me like 18 of those cases -- Twenty-three of those cases said they wanted a separation of trials. On that issue, 18 of those cases granted the separate trial issue. And so I think that supports at least what the Courts are observing in their opinions that it's become the common practice in these motions.

As far as staying discovery, the parties appear to me to cite 19 cases between their two briefs, and 11 of those cases stayed discovery. And so I do think it has become the common practice, and all three reasons are present here. Let me go through them one at a time, if I might, for Your Honor, the basic issue of whether or not the resolution of the patent case first could have a significant effect on mooting out the antitrust counterclaims or simplify the issues in that case.

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Your Honor in your preliminary comments touched upon the first issue that is presented there; is that the Courts have addressed how much mootness might be -- result from trying the patent issues first. And the Plaintiffs, for example, say it needs to all be moot when all the dust is settled. And, Your Honor, there is no case that I could find that actually says that.

The standard seems to me, as I read the cases, that the basic standard is the Court's focus on whether there's a reasonable likelihood that some of the antitrust issues are going to get mooted out or it's going to get simplified in a significant way. One of the cases I'm just going to read a quote from because it kind of said it better than what I'm saying. In the Dentsply case which is the District of Delaware by Judge Robson, the Court pointed out the argument that, "All of the antitrust issues must be resolved in the first trial." That's the patent trial. That misapprehends the goal of bifurcation because separate trials may be warranted so long as some of the issues in the second trial would be simplified. All of the issues in a second trial may not be implicated in the first trial. I think, as I read the cases, that's the standard that seems to have emerged; that you would need to conclude that you see that some of the issues in that antitrust counterclaim are going to be simplified or actually going to be moot because of what is

1 going to happen in the patent case. 2 Now if you look at the Complaint here, Your Honor, I -- I put a chart together that I'm going to hand up to 3 Your Honor because there are eight different forms of 4 5 anticompetitive conduct that get discussed in this Complaint, 6 the antitrust counterclaim Complaint. So what I've done, 7 Your Honor, is I have prepared a chart. If I could, could I 8 ask leave to hand this to Your Honor? 9 THE COURT: Sure. 10 MR. WEBB: Thank you. What I'm trying to address is the mootness question. What is it that could very likely end 11 up being moot if you try the patent case first? 12 13 And so the first column, I've got the eight 14 categories of anti -- or forms of anticompetitive conduct that 15 appears to me the Plaintiff is alleging in the antitrust 16 counterclaim. The second column addresses how I at least think or 17 18 we think that it -- the allegations in the -- in the antitrust 19 case may very well be resolved because of what happens in the 20 first trial, in the patent trial. And the third column, I've tried to pinpoint from the 21 22 briefs whether I think the parties have any great dispute about this. And so let me quickly walk through this, but the 23

bottom line is that six -- six out of the eight antitrust

forms of anticompetitive conduct are going to be significantly

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impacted and I believe mooted by what happens one way or the other in the patent case. And six out of eight is obviously a lot more than some. It's a large majority, and I respectfully suggest that in and of itself would lead to granting our motion.

The issue -- I'll quickly go through them. The issue about patent fraud, I don't think there's any question that that issue is going to get resolved in the -- in the -- in the patent case and is going to end up being moot one way or the other. That issue is not going to get relitigated in the -- in the underlying antitrust case. But -- And the Federal Circuit, by the way, has made clear that once these issues get resolved in the patent case, they do become, if you will, law of the case or collateral estoppel. We're not going to be relitigating the issues that get resolved in the patent case in the antitrust case which is what brings the judicial economy or judicial efficiency. So patent fraud is going to be mooted.

Sham litigation is clearly going to be mooted one way or the other by -- by what happens in the patent trial.

False statements, the false statement so-called antitrust misconduct, that we misrepresented our patent position to seed companies, that's going to get resolved in the patent case because it turns out one way or the other that's going to have a significant mootness effect on the

false statements formed of antitrust anticompetitive conduct.

No. 4: The "poison pill" provision basically is a provision that allows Monsanto, if there's a change of ownership by its licensee, they can terminate the license because Monsanto has a right to know who owns its License Agreements. There's no question that that "poison pill" provision is what under the law is called a field-of-use restriction which, in effect, gets resolved once you know the scope of the patent, and that's going to get litigated by Your Honor in the patent trial. And so the field-of-use restriction is also going to end up being mooted or significantly affected.

Now I don't -- I don't think the Defendants agree with me on that point, so I point that out in the third column, although I don't see any real argument in their brief as to why.

The stacking restrictions, No. 5, there's no dispute on this. That's another field-of-use restriction on whether or not our License Agreement, which -- which restricts stacking of Monsanto's Roundup® Ready trait with any other alternative glyphosate-tolerant trait, that also is a field-of-use restriction that's going to get resolved once the scope of the patent gets resolved in the patent trial.

No. 6, the Dow-Monsanto Agreement, both sides agree that issue will still -- will not get mooted out by the patent

1 trial because that's an agreement actually between -- that Monsanto had with Dow. And there's all kinds of issues about 2 3 standing there, but I'm not going there today. I'm just --That point is we agree that that issue will still be there in 4 the antitrust case. 5 6 And the Germplasm License Provisions, this is another field-of-use issue which is going to get resolved with the 7 8 determination of the scope of Monsanto's patent rights, and 9 it's going to get resolved in the patent case. 10 The switching strategy, we agree the switching strategy, that Defendants allege a form of anticompetitive 11 conduct, will not get resolved in the patent case. But you've 12 13 got six out of eight of these antitrust forms of misconduct 14 that are going to be mooted or substantially affected or streamlined. And, therefore, I think the first factor that 15 the Courts really focus on, which is judicial economy, is 16 17 clearly present and supports the motion that we filed here. 18 The second -- The second issue -- I'm sorry, 19 Your Honor. 20 Yeah. I just wanted to inject here for a THE COURT: 21 moment. 22 MR. WEBB: Yes. THE COURT: Of course, the Defendants take a large 23 24 part of their brief to discuss No. 8, and it's their view that

what this is all about is delaying the disposition of their

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    antitrust claims to permit the -- what they claim unlawful
    activity of Monsanto to continue, and I'm sure I'll be hearing
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    a lot more about that in a moment. But do you want to touch
    upon that now or wait for rebuttal until you hear what they
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    have to say?
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              MR. WEBB: No. I'll touch -- If you want, I'll touch
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    on it now --
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              THE COURT: All right.
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                         -- and then I'll address it more in detail
              MR. WEBB:
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     in rebuttal.
              THE COURT: All right.
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              MR. WEBB: But let me just make this basic point.
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    That's a -- That's a prejudice argument. They've raised an
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     issue that they will be prejudiced if they don't get this
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    antitrust case to trial sooner rather than later, and the
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     stay, when they -- whether the stay will somehow hurt the
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    marketplace. And that prejudice argument, if you look at the
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    cases, the prejudice argument is not valid if the Plaintiff --
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    if in this case the Defendant has sat on their rights.
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    Licensing Agreements that have these restrictions in it and
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    the issues that they're raising, they've been part -- they've
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    been part of the License Agreement for the seed companies
    going back to 1996 and 1997, and they've been -- So the idea
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    that the Plaintiff is going to be prejudiced by, let's say, a
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    year delay in getting the antitrust case to trial I
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respectfully suggest is not a valid reason. Plaintiffs or Defendants raise this -- The counterclaim plaintiff always raises this, saying, "Oh, we have to get to trial sooner on our underlying -- on our underlying antitrust claim because of the market." But most of the time, the Courts don't grant it for that reason, for the reason I just -- The Plaintiff here has sat on these Licensing Agreements for the seed companies and its own Licensing Agreement for years and has never brought an antitrust claim until all of a sudden the patent claim gets brought. And I'll address it more later, but I think under the case law, they are not suffering any prejudice because of their own conduct. THE COURT: I think the record needs to say -- You said "Plaintiffs sat on it." You mean Defendants sat on it. I did. I should have -- Thank you. MR. WEBB: They're the Defendants who have filed the counterclaim on the antitrust counterclaim. Thank you, Your Honor. So they've sat on their rights, and I don't think there's any prejudice. Now the second reason that the cases grant the stay and the separate trial is a focus, I think, primarily on discovery which is that if -- if it turns out that the antitrust claims truly are much more complex than the patent claims, and there's some likelihood that they may get streamlined, mooted out or just go away because the patent

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case gets resolved first, then you got this issue of a huge amount of cost and time consumption in discovery that can be saved which is, obviously, something the Courts are heavily focused on today with the heavy increase in discovery costs. THE COURT: Let me interrupt you again. It is -- Even with the multi-national companies, certainly, the thought of costs, I think, is -- to me is less significant than if you have an enormous company on one side and a very small company on the other side that could effectively be put out of business with these kinds of costs. But how -- how really is the cost of discovery saved if you have to do it twice? It seems to me that it's -- it's -- that argument sort of pales when you look at the overall picture because a lot of these same witnesses are going to be deposed repeatedly if -- if the Motion to Stay is granted, I think. MR. WEBB: Well, Your Honor, respectfully I don't think that's what's going to happen. Let me just address that because if you look at what has happened historically, that once the patent case gets tried, those issues that actually get mooted out in the patent case, the parties are not allowed to relitigate those issues in the antitrust case. And so the antitrust discovery will not go through the same discovery. It will not be repeated twice because of the mootness issue. Once -- Once the patent issues become the law of the case and

they're resolved and then you -- after the dust settles, you figure out what's actually left in the antitrust case -- For example, if the only discovery that got taken in the antitrust case were on the -- let's say on Dow, on the Dow contract or on the switching strategy, if that's all that was left, that amount of discovery would be so small compared to the amount of discovery that would take place if we just litigated all of the antitrust issues in the patent case and took discovery.

And just to have a visual, something I can show

Your Honor on that, let me hand up another chart that relates
to Your Honor's question.

The -- What I've tried to do on this chart is to kind of look at the briefs and the Complaint and in effect show the Court that if you -- if you don't take discovery of the antitrust case and the patent case, the discovery in the patent case will essentially address the issues in that left-hand column which are very focused. They're narrow and they're the issues that will -- that get litigated in a patent case or in a breach of contract case involving with the patent the validity of the patent, the enforceability and infringement. Those are pretty narrow, straightforward issues that will get discovered and will get addressed.

In the right-hand column are the issues that are presented by this massive antitrust case. And it is massive, Your Honor. For example, just under the issue of Market

Definition and Market Power as I've set forth in the right-hand column, the fact is that we -- we don't have one or two alleged relevant markets. There are five proposed relevant trait product markets. When I've tried antitrust cases with one or two markets, it becomes massive. I don't even know with five -- five different trait markets, and the issue about what is the -- the definition of what is in those markets to the testimony of experts and economists, the existence of whether or not there's market power within each of those five relevant markets, Your Honor, that issue in and of itself will be an enormous amount of discovery which if it doesn't -- if it gets delayed until you see when the dust settles, that issue could very well be reduced down to a much smaller number of markets that we're dealing with.

The alleged anticompetitive conduct, which I just went through with Your Honor to some extent, there's eight different forms of it. A lot of those forms of anticompetitive conduct I think are going to be mooted out by the resolution of the patent case. And -- And so that, again, we don't know what's going to happen in the patent case, and when the Courts tend to rule on these motions, they're trying to look a little bit into a crystal ball and take a reasonable approach, but I think that the eight -- eight different forms of anticompetitive conduct in which I think six of the eight are going to be mooted out and we're not going to take

discovery on those six forms of anticompetitive conduct after the patent case is resolved.

Also, antitrust injury or anticompetitive effect is also a major issue that gets addressed by experts and is a big issue dealing with five different relevant markets. And then, of course, there's antitrust damages. And so what I have in the right-hand column is discovery which I believe very likely is going to be substantially reduced. And so I think there's going to be -- I don't think it's going to happen twice, and I don't think we're going to litigate the issues twice, and I think there's going to be an enormous amount of judicial efficiency and an enormous cost savings. And, yes, Your Honor is correct. I accept you got two major companies here, and I don't minimize Your Honor's point, but I would say the Supreme Court in the recent Trombley case at least pointed out that it's important that whether it's a big company or a little company, if discovery in some way can -- there's an obvious potential cost savings, Courts ought to at least look at that issue, and I would just respectfully say that when you read these cases over, Courts do seem to look at that issue.

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THE COURT: One point. I may not have allowed enough time for argument, and so I don't want to ---

MR. WEBB: Yes.

THE COURT: We have another big case coming at

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10:00, --
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              MR. WEBB:
                         Yes.
              THE COURT: -- so just proceed accordingly.
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                         I'm moving right along. Thank you.
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              MR. WEBB:
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              THE COURT: All right.
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              MR. WEBB:
                         I did not realize -- I'm moving.
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              THE COURT: All right.
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              MR. WEBB: Let me go to the third reason, Your Honor.
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              The third reason is that trying the patent contract
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    case together with the antitrust counterclaims is likely to
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    create significant jury confusion. This is an issue that the
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    Courts really focus on in these Motions to Stay or for
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    separate trials. And it's done so because you can just
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     imagine, Your Honor, if you took the simple issues I put on
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     this side of the chart, the patent case, and just threw on top
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    of it this massive amount of evidence, the potential for jury
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    confusion, to get lost and lose the focus on the patent and
    breach of contract. I will quote from that same case very
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    quickly in Dentsply where Judge Robson said, "The Court would
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    be left numb -- The Jury -- The Jury would be left numb and
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    bewildered if asked to consider the patent and antitrust
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    issues together which would include intricate, factual and
    economic analysis regarding relevant market, actual and
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    potential shares of that market, barriers of entry,
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    et cetera."
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And so, Your Honor, that issue, I don't think there's any question that if you took all of these antitrust issues and just lobbed them on top here, that that is a major issue that I think supports our motion. Therefore, Your Honor, I would just conclude by making this one observation. In a case a few years ago, DuPont happened to be on the other side of the fence than they are today. In that case, they, in a case called Akznoa v. DuPont, DuPont ended up having, in effect, had a patent claim for infringement and then they picked up the inevitable antitrust counterclaim. And they went forward on that case in front of a District Court Judge in Delaware, and they raised the -- every issue I just raised before Your Honor. And they argued that they should get a stay of discovery and they should get a separation of trials, and they got it. The Court granted it on the very issues I've raised because of -because most, but not all, of the antitrust claims potentially were mooted because there was going to be jury confusion likely and because of burdensome discovery. And so somewhat ironically, at least DuPont in another case has found that the principles I've set forth here seem to be particularly relevant. Thank you, Your Honor. Thank you, Mr. Webb. Thank you. THE COURT:

MR. DENVIR: Thank you, Your Honor.

1 THE COURT: Good morning. 2 MR. DENVIR: Your Honor, I, too, have some 3 demonstratives to hand up, --THE COURT: All right, good. 4 MR. DENVIR: -- if it's okay with you. 5 6 THE COURT: Thank you. 7 MR. DENVIR: Your Honor, Jim Denvir for Defendants. 8 Good morning. 9 THE COURT: Good morning. 10 MR. DENVIR: A couple of points I'd like to respond 11 to right away, Your Honor. We acknowledge that the cases go both ways, and I think if we were to count the cases, we'd 12 13 probably come up with a slightly different breakdown. 14 But what I think -- what I think happens in these 15 cases is that Courts do try to use their common sense and reach the most efficient outcome given the facts before them. 16 17 And we would suggest, Your Honor, that in this case all of 18 the -- all of the factors that were just discussed weigh not 19 in favor of stay and bifurcation but in favor of going forward 20 to a single trial of all of these issues. And I think, 21 Your Honor, that's effectively what the cases say. 22 Now counsel for Monsanto, Your Honor, specifically mentioned the Dentsply case as one that's worth looking at, 23 24 and I think he read a quote to you from the case. I would 25 like to read you a couple of other quotes from that case.

cite is 1996 Westlaw 756766. That's a District of Delaware 1 2 case, 1996. The Court did order separate trials in that case. 3 However -- And this is a quote. It stated that, quote, "There's a possibility that all aspects of the antitrust 4 5 claims, including the two nonsham allegations, could be 6 resolved by a first trial on patent infringement." 7 So, Your Honor, I would suggest that even the 8 Dentsply case involved a situation in which all of the 9 antitrust claims could be mooted by a determination in favor 10 of the plaintiffs in that case. That Court also observed, quote, "A stay of discovery on antitrust issues would most 11 likely devolve into a series of time-consuming and expensive 12 13 discovery disputes as to whether particular discovery is 14 directed at the patent or antitrust claims. Efficiency dictates that discovery on all claims, including the antitrust 15 16 counterclaims, continue apace." 17 Now, Your Honor, we're going to start, I think, with 18 three reasons of our own why this case should -- should go 19 forward. 20 First is that -- And this is sort of coming at it 21 from the other end. We believe, Your Honor, that there's --22 there's actually no very good reason that the Court has to decide now whether to bifurcate the trial of this case. We've 23 24 got a long way ahead of us, including possible Motions for 25 Summary Judgment, and a lot of things can happen between now

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having a war of charts in this case.

and the final pretrial conference. But what I would respectfully suggest to Your Honor is that it is extremely important that the Court at least leave its options open with respect to whether there is a single trial or a bifurcated trial, so the antitrust and patent claims, and that's for the reason that we've already discussed in our papers, Your Honor; that antitrust plaintiffs -- There's a -- There's a standard in antitrust law that antitrust plaintiffs should be given the opportunity to have the jury consider their evidence as an integrated whole and not segmented or considered piecemeal. So in order to preserve that option by Your Honor, we have to allow discovery on all -- on all issues because if the Court decides to stay discovery, then that option is off the table. The second reason, Your Honor, that we think this case needs to go forward on all claims is the -- is the judicial economy and efficiency argument that was just raised before Your Honor. And third, Your Honor, if -- if this case is stayed, there will be very real prejudice, and I'd like to address all of those points. The first numbered page, Your Honor, in that set of demonstratives that I handed up, which I think is probably -it's the page after the Table of Contents, this is sort of our own competing chart. I think we're going to have -- we're

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The categories here are the categories that the

Plaintiffs are using in this case. They come from Pages 7 and
8 of their reply brief. They're exactly the same categories;

(1) Patent Fraud, (2) Sham Litigation. The Paragraphs of

Amended Counterclaims that are cited there are also the

paragraphs that are listed in Defendants' reply brief.

So we've looked at this in a slightly different way, Your Honor. And let's start where -- where there's no disagreement, and that is with respect to this patent fraud issue.

Neither side contends otherwise. It is a fact, Your Honor, that discovery as to that claim, which is sort of the flip side of the inequitable conduct affirmative defense, is going to go forward because the facts underlying both the affirmative defense and the affirmative antitrust counterclaim are the same. They involve issues surrounding Monsanto's conduct before the Patent Office. They involve material which we allege was withheld. They involve issues concerning the materiality of that information. They involve issues concerning Monsanto's intent in withholding that information. And discovery as to all of those issues will take place, Your Honor, regardless of -- Well, they're going to take place because they have to take place. It's our -- Inequitable conduct is our affirmative defense, and the facts underlying that affirmative defense are the same as the facts underlying

our affirmative Walker Process claim.

place no matter what.

These factual allegations, Your Honor, which account for 49 of the 104 of the allegations of anticompetitive conduct in the case, are, in fact, the most factually complex, discovery-intensive disputed facts in this litigation.

Everything else will pale in comparison to the complexity and the difficulty of that discovery, and that's going to take

Now we enter, again using Monsanto's categories, categories of Anticompetitive Conduct as to which there is no dispute that discovery will eventually be necessary at some point. So, again, we have patent fraud which we just discussed; the sham litigation which we just discussed; the Dow-Monsanto agreement. That's an additional 14 out of the 104 allegations of fact and the switching strategy which is another 7 out of the 104. So that's 70 out of the 104 allegations, Your Honor, as to which discovery is going to take place no matter what happens. It's just a question of when.

Now you'll note in the middle column opposite

"Switching Strategy" that we put in parentheses "excluding

Paragraphs 137 to 143," and we've noted that because Monsanto

doesn't count those paragraphs anywhere. What those

paragraphs involve, Your Honor, ---

THE COURT: Just a second. Where are you now?

1 MR. DENVIR: I'm sorry. "Eventual Discovery 2 Necessary - Undisputed." 3 THE COURT: All right. MR. DENVIR: And if you look down to "Switching 4 5 Strategy, " the paragraphs of the counterclaims that have been 6 identified by Monsanto, 179 through 185, do not include, nor 7 does any other category in Monsanto's chart, include 8 Paragraphs 137 to 143. And I just wanted to tell you what --9 Those paragraphs are the paragraphs that allege that the 10 independent seed companies are a critical, essential, necessary distribution channel for developers of traits. 11 is a key -- Those are key sets of allegations, Your Honor, in 12 13 antitrust terms, and Monsanto concedes that those have to go 14 forward as well. So we're really talking about 77 out of the 15 104 paragraphs of the counterclaims that allege 16 anticompetitive conduct as to which discovery will be 17 necessary at some point. 18 Now when you talk about efficiency, Your Honor, 19 "efficiency" means potentially avoiding unnecessary discovery. 20 It does not mean delaying discovery that's going to happen no 21 matter what, and that's essentially what Monsanto is arguing 22 for here today. We then have the final category, Your Honor, 23 24 "Discovery Necessary," but it's our position that Monsanto 25 disputes that, and that includes the remainder of those -- of

those categories of anticompetitive conduct.

Now the reason we disagree with Monsanto's position, Your Honor, that discovery will not be necessary with respect to those claims is that they are all part of our allegations of the switching strategy. If you look at the next page, Your Honor, we tried to demonstrate this graphically.

When Monsanto refers to the "ISC switching strategy," they suggest, I think, Your Honor, that these are some isolated, disconnected sort of allegations that we just threw in the Complaint. As a matter of fact, Your Honor, the Complaint says that we bring this action -- that's in the yellow box on top -- "DuPont and Pioneer bring this action to arrest a new anticompetitive scheme by Monsanto designed to force ISCs to switch from Roundup Ready® 1 to Roundup Ready® 2 Yield prior to the expiration of the patents." So it's not some isolated, off-to-the-side set of allegations. This is the centerpiece of our case.

It is then alleged, Your Honor, in Paragraph 3 of the counterclaims, "The unlawful scheme described herein" -- that's the switching scheme -- "has five key related components each by itself anticompetitive and each contributing to the exclusionary effects of the whole."

And what are those five? They're the five categories of anticompetitive conduct that Monsanto says, "Well, these are field-of-use restrictions," so the Court need not -- If we

went on -- if we went on the patents then, the Court will never need to consider these issues, but we disagree with that. We think, Your Honor, the discovery will be necessary as to those parts of an overall -- overarching scheme, regardless of the outcome on the patent issues.

Now we address that on the next page of this -- these

Now we address that on the next page of this -- these demonstratives, Your Honor.

We respectfully submit, Your Honor, that the switching strategy cannot be viewed in isolation from its various components, and those components are the five categories as to which Monsanto claims discovery will not be necessary.

It has long been held that even if individual elements of an alleged anticompetitive scheme are legal, taken outside of the context of monopoly power and taken outside of the context of the synergistic effects of that scheme, that if there are effects taken as a whole that are exclusionary within the meaning of Section 2 of the Sherman Act, then they violate Section 2, taken as a whole, even if individually, each of those -- each of those acts viewed in isolation might be legal.

Our Complaint -- Our counterclaims, Your Honor, allege that you can't view these -- these acts in isolation here. The Complaint alleges that they are all part of a scheme; that they're interrelated and that they operate

synergistically. So we would submit, Your Honor, that no matter what the outcome on the patent case is, on the patent case we're going to have to take discovery on these five remaining categories as well which means virtually a hundred percent.

I want to make one comment. We've heard today and in the briefing that's been done in this case the term "field of use" as sort of a callusment (ph); if it's -- if it's a -- if it's a field of use, then it's somehow blessed and no longer subject to antitrust scrutiny. Well, it's not quite that simple. Number one, we will dispute whether these are actually field-of-use restrictions or not. But, second, even if they are, the Federal Circuit in B. Braun, B-R-A-U-N, Medical v. Abbott Labs, which is at 124 F3d 1419 at 1426, Federal Circuit case, stated that field-of-use restrictions are generally upheld. It then went on to note, however, that quote, "Any anticompetitive effects they may have are analyzed under the rule of reason," closed quote.

So we will -- we will argue during the course of this case, Your Honor, that these are -- number one, these are not field-of-use restrictions and, number two, even if they are, they -- they have to be evaluated under the rule of reason.

And third, they cannot be viewed in isolation. They have to be viewed as an integrated whole and in the way they operate together synergistically. So that's the story on efficiency,

Your Honor -- on switching; on -- I'm sorry; on the stay.

Now as I said, Your Honor, the second reason or the third reason we believe that a stay is inappropriate here is that it would cause real prejudice. Now you heard this morning that we've sat on our rights and that these license restrictions go back years and years and years. The switching strategy is new, and it has arisen with the pending/impending expiration of the Roundup Ready® patent. So it's -- We have not sat on our rights, Your Honor. This is -- This is not only something that's new but it's taking place as we speak.

The Complaint alleges that Monsanto is currently coercing ISCs to switch from Roundup Ready® 1 to Roundup Ready® 2. The Complaint alleges that they have been told they need to destroy their Roundup Ready® 1 seed lines. So before the patent expires, Monsanto's goal is to have everybody switched to Roundup Ready® 2. Roundup Ready® 1 seed lines will be destroyed. What that means is that when the patent expires, there's not going to be any possibility of generic competition certainly by the ISCs or by the ISCs as a distribution channel for other trait developers, and that's -- that's ongoing. Once that happens, Your Honor, we believe that once the ISCs completely switch from Roundup Ready® 1 to Roundup Ready® 2, that that conversion will become effectively irreversible. So there is real imminent danger, Your Honor, and it's real prejudice not only to -- not only Pioneer and

DuPont who are going to try to sell traits, license traits to these independent seed companies, but to the public interest.

Now, finally, Your Honor, on the issue of separate trials, Mr. Webb said earlier that there won't be two trials of the antitrust claims in this case no matter -- no matter -- there will not be two trials of the --

THE COURT: Patents?

MR. DENVIR: -- inequitable defense in the Walker Process. If Monsanto is willing to waive a second trial today, we'd be happy to take it, but the Courts have held that the elements of the two -- All of the facts may be precisely the same. The elements of the two are different.

If you look, Your Honor, at Page 6 of this outline, the heading is "Bifurcated Trials Is Redundant." We cite the Climax Molybdenum v. Molychem case which is at 414 F.Supp. 2d, 1007. This is the law generally, but this is a clear articulation of the law. In rejecting bifurcation, the Court held that, "Bifurcation would result in duplication and inefficient use of judicial resources. Although there is considerable overlap between the issues of inequitable conduct and the fraud necessary to establish a Walker Process antitrust claim, the elements are not identical. Thus, if Molychem were to prevail on its defense on inequitable conduct during a separate trial of the patent issues, no issue preclusion would result from that determination. A subsequent

trial of Molychem's Walker Process counterclaims would require another evidentiary presentation about Climax's alleged fraud on the Patent Office. In this case, a single trial of the patent and antitrust issues would promote the objectives of efficiency and fairness."

We would suggest that the same is true here,

Your Honor. Not only is there a large overlap but the factual issues, the evidence is virtually the same; the same witnesses, same documents. And if we prevail on our inequitable conduct claim, I bet you almost anything that

Monsanto is going to come in the next day and say, "Well, wait a minute. We get a new trial on the antitrust claim because the standards are different," and they are. So if we prevail, Your Honor, we're going to have two trials. There's no question about it.

I assume there's no more dispute about whether we get a jury trial on the inequitable conduct claim because that is absolutely clear law. So what we end up having potentially is not a savings but we have -- we have two virtually identical trials before two different juries on the same factual issues. I would suggest to Your Honor that that is not a model of efficiency. It's a prescription for inefficiency and waste and delay. And if the Court would want -- If there's a way for the Court to guarantee that this case will stay on its docket for a very, very long time, the way to do that is to

order a stay and bifurcation because that -- there are some things in this case that we are not going to be able to avoid regardless of whether Monsanto or DuPont, Pioneer prevail on these issues. So we may -- we may simplify things in the short term. I can't say that that's not the case, but we're not going to avoid anything. And as I said, Your Honor, that's -- that's a prescription for inefficiency and waste and waste of judicial resources.

THE COURT: A couple of things. One thing you didn't talk about, and I'm not suggesting it was oversight, but one concern I do have is the issue of -- of -- I'm already trying to fix in my mind what the jury instructions would look like with one case as opposed to two and, obviously, from my standpoint, it would be a lot easier to simplify it. However, many of your arguments are persuasive, so I haven't yet sorted it out.

Before we came out today, I thought I had a solution to this problem, and that was -- What I intended to do was to tell you to at the conclusion of the arguments, if I were not persuaded to the contrary, would be that the discovery would be wide open; no stay of discovery. We would schedule the patent case and the inequitable conduct trial, and then you would know right at this time. When we do the Case Management Order three months later, four months later, something like that, we would schedule the second trial.

And part of what you say would be facilitated by doing that in terms of not foreclosing all of the facts you would need for your inequitable conduct issues, but I'm still not convinced exactly what I'm going to do.

But what would your view be if some kind of a procedure like that would be adopted? And then I'll hear from Mr. Webb in a moment.

MR. DENVIR: Your Honor, I think -- I guess I'll go back to my initial point which is what we think the Court ought to do here is, as the Court is apparently inclined, to allow discovery to go forward but to leave open the option of trying both sets of issues at least before the same jury.

Now if Your Honor looks at the C.R. Bard v. 3M -- M3 case we cited in our brief, the Court there did something which I thought was fairly innovative. It had the same jury consider the patent and the inequitable conduct issues and the patent misuse issues and the antitrust issues, but it had that jury just consider those issues in stages and respond to special verdict forms at the end of each presentation of evidence. So if there was a single jury, if the claims were tried together, but the Court ordered the evidence in such a way that it really streamlined the case, avoided the issue of jury confusion, and allowed the antitrust Plaintiffs to -- to present their evidence in a way that the Supreme Court says we should be able to present it, which is as an integrated whole,

to have the same jury consider all of the evidence. 1 2 So what I would suggest, Your Honor, is that, again, we -- I would suggest we go forward with full discovery here 3 because it's the only way to preserve that option. 4 It's also -- It will be -- It will be much more 5 6 efficient by a wide measure than trying to stay discovery 7 because we're just going to have to do it again at some point 8 but defer on the issue of whether we bifurcate the trial 9 because there are -- there's a lot of creativity within this 10 courtroom, and I'm sure we can figure out ways to avoid or minimize any issues of confusion or complexity in the same way 11 that the Court in this C.R. Bard case did. So that's what I 12 13 would suggest, Your Honor. Thank you. 14 THE COURT: Sure. Mr. Webb? 15 Thank you, Your Honor. I understand your MR. WEBB: 16 schedule and I'll try to be brief. 17 THE COURT: All right. That's all right. Well, it's my problem. Actually, I should have allowed more time, but 18 19 I'm sorry I didn't. But if we go over a little bit, I'm sure 20 the attorneys, some of whom are here already, will not object 21 precipitously. Go ahead. 22 MR. WEBB: Your Honor, as far as the -- The first point that counsel made was basically one of saying, "Well, 23 24 just preserve your ability to have one trial and, therefore,

in order to do that, just put all the discovery on one track

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and then decide later." And what that totally ignores,

Your Honor, is our right to an efficient and hopefully

reasonably quick trial on what are very simple patent and

contract issues. The discovery -- The discovery on those

issues is not that great. So that -- The parties are going to

have a Rule 26 conference here today, Your Honor, and try to

talk about the scheduling procedure, and there's no question

that from the standpoint of Monsanto, we would like to get the

patent and the contract case to trial in reasonable short

order.

The amount of discovery that will be needed on all of these antitrust issues that I put on my first chart, all the market power, market definition issues, the discovery, I respectfully suggest, Your Honor, would extend discovery two or three times beyond what is going to be needed to get the discovery done on the antitrust case.

If you go to their chart, their chart which was No. 1, their Chart No. 1, Your Honor, the honest to God truth is that the only -- the only issue in that left-hand column that needs to have discovery taken and to litigate in the -- in the patent contract case is the patent fraud issue. Every other issue is an antitrust issue that goes beyond what is needed to litigate the -- the contract and the patent issues. And so if you were -- If we were to -- If you stayed discovery on the antitrust issues and when you get done with the patent trial,

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no one can guarantee what's going to happen, but I'm as certain as I'm standing here, it is going to moot some significant segments of that antitrust case. In fact, the whole case may go away and there will no discovery, but none of us can predict that today. But I think what's in the back of many Courts' minds when they do this is the recognition that this discovery may never have to be taken or at least it will be taken in a much more truncated way. Just -- For example, just on the issue of patent fraud in the patent fraud cases I've been involved in, that gets proven up with one or two, at the most three witnesses. That's all. That's what I would -- I would be surprised if their patent fraud case has more than two witnesses in it when all the dust settles when this case gets tried before Your Honor. And -- So that -- that the -- And by the way, on the issue of -- of what would actually happen and whether there will have to be two trials, I don't know what's going to happen, but here's -- Let me just -- What happens normally is that the law is pretty clear in the patent case that what will happen is that Your Honor is going to set down a jury trial on the causes of action at law that relate to the patent and contract claims. But the inequitable patent fraud issues get tried. They're under the case law of the Federal Circuit. Those issues are tried in equity but before Your Honor in a bench trial, and that's what will happen here.

Now once that's all resolved, whether under their Walker Process theory there's something left that needs to be tried in front of an antitrust case jury, we can evaluate that at the time, but that does not need to be resolved today and there's no reason to resolve it today and it may never need to be resolved. So -- And by the way, if there -- if there are two trials some day, if there are, it almost never happens but if there actually is a second trial that follows, there is no question that the discovery on that antitrust case is going to be so much narrower than -- than what is now being presented, and the trial itself is going to be so much more narrow that there will be enormous judicial efficiencies.

Let me now address what they call their real prejudice which is their, in effect, their concern that they're not going to be able to compete in the marketplace effectively if the antitrust trial is delayed. Let me just make sure the Court -- First of all, by the way, in any case that I've been in, when the other side tries to oppose my Motion to Stay on prejudice, they normally file some kind of affidavit. They just can't get up and make up facts. Okay? They have to -- But they haven't filed any affidavit that supports any argument of prejudice. They've waited years to bring this antitrust claim.

The Seed License Agreements go back to 1996, 1997, and these restrictions have been in those Agreements since

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Their own License Agreement got changed because of that time. a settlement called the Master Settlement Agreement in '02 but that's seven years ago. So if somehow these restrictions were causing some huge anticompetitive problem for them, I can't imagine why they could possibly wait and now come into court and say, "Oh, we're going to have all this prejudice." THE COURT: What they're saying is that Roundup -- in switching from the 2014 to the 2020 limitation of the patent laws by going from Roundup® 1 to Roundup® 2, that was recent. MR. WEBB: And I -- But, Your Honor, if you go to their Chart No. 2 in their book, they're trying to combine -they're trying to argue that all of these restrictions are somehow connected to the switching which they say is recent which is the circle that talks about switching. But all of these stacking restrictions, all the poison pills, the germplasm, those are all licenses that existed back in 1996 and 1997. And so those are not new. And so we all agree that the switching issue will get litigated in a second trial, if that ever becomes necessary, but it doesn't include all of these other restrictions which have been there for years and years and years and is not new. And also, I would like to point out to Your Honor as far as any prejudice in their ability to compete, so Your Honor understands, DuPont now has a License Agreement

from Monsanto. We -- They have a License Agreement.

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right now -- They -- They have our Roundup Ready® technology,
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    and they are -- they are allowed to compete against Monsanto's
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    Roundup Ready® product, and they're able to do so all the way
    up to 2014. Now in 2014 they're going to be able to be a
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    competitor by stacking anything they want to stack, based on
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    whatever restrictions there are at that time, but they'll be
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    able to stack off the patent on Roundup Ready® and be able to
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    compete in that marketplace. And so the idea -- The reason
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     they haven't filed a suit before this is they've had no
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     trouble competing against us because we didn't -- we gave them
    a license.
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                 They have a License Agreement now, and it's going
     to run up to the time that the patent expires. And they're
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    going to be able to compete in the marketplace. And so the
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     idea that they're going to suffer some enormous prejudice, I
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    respectfully suggest, is just not true and it's belied by the
    fact that they, in fact, have not done anything to pursue any
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    such causes of action for years under these License
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    Agreements.
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              Let me -- Could I comment on Your Honor's proposal?
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              THE COURT:
                          Sure.
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              MR. WEBB:
                         As a -- If I understood your proposal --
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    Maybe I should -- Can I repeat it?
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              THE COURT: Well, it was -- It actually was just a --
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              MR. WEBB: A thought.
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              THE COURT: -- something less than a thought maybe.
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     I don't know; not a proposal.
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              MR. WEBB:
                         I'm sorry.
              THE COURT:
                         Just something that -- I was trying to
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    sort out some kind of an accommodation that would address all
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    of the issues of both parties so persuasively raised in
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    their -- in their briefs, and that's all it was. It's not
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    anything that I have in mind secretly imposing on you. I have
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     to go back through and try to sort all of this out after
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    hearing your good arguments, so.
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              MR. WEBB: I understand completely. Could I respond
    briefly --
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              THE COURT: Sure.
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              MR. WEBB: -- to what is less than your thought --
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              THE COURT: Sure.
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              MR. WEBB: -- but just an idea that you had?
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              Your Honor, the problem with putting the antitrust
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    case discovery on the same track as the patent case discovery
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    is that they shouldn't be on the same length of time.
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    patent case discovery can be done in very short order and a
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    trial can take place. The antitrust discovery is going to
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    take two or three times longer because of the complexity of
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    those issues that I walked through with Chart No. 1 and,
    therefore, I respectfully suggest that that's not -- Well, I
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    respectfully suggest that that doesn't solve the problem.
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     -- If Your Honor were to decide to go somewhat in that
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direction, then what I would -- I guess my brief response is that the antitrust discovery would have to run out, would have to be extended a year or so beyond the conclusion of the patent discovery and that it would run out for another year or so because it's going to take that amount of time to get the discovery done. But I respectfully suggest that what in this case should happen is the same thing that happened with DuPont in the case I referred to earlier a few years ago; that the stay of discovery be granted and that separate trials be granted for the same reasons DuPont prevailed in that earlier case which is because of mootness and judicial efficiency and jury confusion.

And by the way, Your Honor, about instructions, there's no question if you were to take the instructions that you will give to a jury on the patent and contract claims and put them together tomorrow and then stack on top of them the enormous complexity of these -- Every time I try an antitrust case and I read over those instructions we have to give them, I wonder -- I don't know how jurors track the intricacies of those instructions, but they do the best they can. But to put those instructions on top of the patent instructions would clearly, I respectfully suggest, lead to jury confusion.

Thank you for your time, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Ordinarily this would end it, but go ahead; a brief response and then Mr. Webb will get the final

word.

2 MR. DENVIR: Just one minute, Your Honor.

On the complexity and length of discovery, there are -- there's six law firms on that side. We have at least three on our side. Your Honor, we are going to have a conference today, and we were going to propose a very aggressive schedule for both the antitrust and patent discovery, and we don't think there's any reason that they both can't be done at the same time and in a very timely manner. We have every incentive for the reasons I've stated earlier to get the antitrust issues before a jury as quickly as we can, and we will do everything we can to do that.

In terms of the complexity of the allegations in this case, Your Honor, the most fact-intensive, discovery-intensive allegations relate to this patent fraud issue. The rest of these issues are -- are not nearly so fact intensive. The market power, market definitions are expert issues which I think Mr. Webb said today. There's not a lot of discovery on that stuff. It's going to be mainly a matter of statistics, and experts will testify as to that, but I think there's been a -- it's been a huge exaggeration of the complexity of the antitrust case as compared to the patent case.

So with that, Your Honor, thank you very much for hearing us today.

THE COURT: Final word? Your motion. You get the

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final word, if you want it.
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              MR. WEBB:
                       Yes. I'm going to be very brief.
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    Your Honor, there is no antitrust case with five relevant
    markets and five different markets in which we're going to
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    have to analyze the definition of the market to figure out the
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    issue of who has market power, sort out barriers to entry.
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    There will be economists lined up on both sides of this case
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    until the cows come home. There is no way that I'm
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    exaggerating the complexity. If there's only one or two
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    relevant markets, it becomes extremely complex. With five
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    pled relevant markets and with the number of witnesses, both
    fact and expert, they're going to have to address those
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    issues, and then combine on top of it, address an issue of
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    antitrust injury in each market. To say that that -- that I'm
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    overstating that, I just respectfully suggest that that's not
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    correct.
                         All right. Thank you. Well, thank you
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              THE COURT:
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    all for being here, and I would like to go down and actually
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    meet some of you that I haven't met before just as a courtesy,
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    if you don't mind.
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              (Hearing adjourned at 10:05 AM.)
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CERTIFICATE

I, Deborah A. Kriegshauser, Registered Merit Reporter and Certified Realtime Reporter, hereby certify that I am a duly appointed Official Court Reporter of the United States

District Court for the Eastern District of Missouri.

I further certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of the proceedings held in the above-entitled case and that said transcript is a true and correct transcription of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that this transcript contains pages

1 through 44 inclusive and that this reporter takes no
responsibility for missing or damaged pages of this transcript
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reporter.

Dated at St. Louis, Missouri, this 3rd day of September, 2009.

/s/ Deborah A. Kriegshauser

DEBORAH A. KRIEGSHAUSER, FAPR, RMR, CRR

Official Court Reporter